

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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Von Hertling might well be spelled without the L.

How dense is the world in its misunderstanding (?) of German Kultur.

You can help some in winning the war by saving the scraps of paper.

East Tennessee is increasing its coal output in order to help win the war.

The retreat specialists are having their innings on all the fronts.

Massachusetts has put up \$100,000 to fight the Spanish influenza.

The Serbian "sideshow" seems destined to be one of the rings of the main circus.

The speeches of Von Hertling and Von Hintze bear most of the earmarks of swan songs.

The vigilantes are in the field with a war aim. But it does not comprehend going to the front and fighting for it.

Chattanooga plans to make the liberty bond campaign a short and sweet one.

It is only natural that there should be sharp fighting over possession of Chemin-des-Dames—the ladies' road.

There seems to be a general consensus that the Brest-Litovsk farce is to become scraps of paper.

The Japanese consul at Honolulu objects to seeing his countrymen wearing kimonos, and we don't blame him.

Making of watermelons into vinegar represents our idea of a waste of raw material. It also seems sacrilegious.

Maybe Bulgaria is beginning to react to the suggestion of a peace dictated in Sofia.

"Yanks not to pass," is said to be a motto among Germans. The latter presumably intend to keep well ahead.

Baron Furian now says that the reply of the president was just about what he expected.

On bright, clear days, the war on the western front is transferred to the air.

Southern governors are opposed to any price limit on cotton, but, if it must come, they want it put high enough.

There seems to be an impression that most of the households of the country than usual have laid in their supply of coal.

Wittily remarks the New York Evening Post that "when the devil was sick his mind turned toward a parliamentary form of government."

Perhaps little was to be expected of the German reichstag under the circumstances, but the concluding of peace is apparently not its long suit.

It now appears more than ever probable that a great many of us will be gray-headed when the U-boat brings England to her knees.

We haven't heard any cry for help from that quarter lately, from which we infer that Macedonia is trying to help herself.

Perhaps it represents an effort to conserve lumber, but it has been observed that there are fewer platform planks this year.

There seems to be more or less friction between Germans and bolsheviks, considering that in many quarters they are regarded as the best of chums.

The Chicago Tribune declares that wasting food now is murder. We had not thought of it in that light, but it is very reprehensible.

How does the Memphis News-Sentinel reconcile its present opposition to price-fixing for cotton with its wholehearted support of the president?

The sheriff of Shelby county now says his jail is fit to live in. Wonder if that might be construed as an advertisement for tenants?

Gen. Crowder intimates that a registration may, in certain instances, ask deferred classification and still be a patriot.

A state of war is now said to exist between Brazil and Germany and Austria, but one would hardly suspect it from outward manifestations.

Crown Prince Charles, of Rumania, had apparently forgotten how necessary it is for kings and princes—even princesses—to stand together.

This reserve bank district—the Atlanta district—has been allotted \$122,000,000 of the new loan. A part of the responsibility of raising this amount is yours.

Under the circumstances, it would seem the part of prudence for Bulgaria to get a deed signed for that strip of Turkey which was allotted to her.

Henry Ford has spent millions to enable his country to prosecute the war, but declares he hasn't spent nor will he spend a penny to be elected senator.

The Chicago News remarks that when the nation is bone-dry, a man may no longer boast that he can drink the stuff or let it alone. He will just have to let it alone.

Shouldn't wonder if Greece doesn't now become real zealous in pushing the war against Bulgaria. A few remarks from our friend Venizelos would make good reading along about this time.

Serbian and allies are carrying the war into the enemy's country. And that Bulgaria should feel some of the smart of a war of invasion will be as keenly relished by many as would a penetration of Germany.

NEW OFFENSIVE.

Foch never lets up. The news today is of another stroke by the French and Americans on the western front. They are attacking over the only ground which has not been the scene of a major offensive this year—that is, between Rheims and Verdun. It was east of Rheims where Gen. Gouraud, with his army of French and Americans, stopped Ludendorff in his drive. It was the failure of the enemy to make penetration here, which forced his withdrawal from across the Marne. That was the beginning of the end, so far as the Hun invasion was concerned. Now over the same ground the allies are attacking with the object of completing the German panic before the heavy winter weather sets in.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

Yesterday we read how the German chancellor threatened the opponents of an extended male suffrage in Prussia. Millions of men in the German armies have given their lives to a country which would not grant them the right to vote in their elections, or to have their votes counted as those of other men.

Thus we may take the measure of the two countries. The enemy has not yet the universal male suffrage. We are on the verge of giving women equal rights with men.

Our president has said that the passage of this measure was essential to the winning of the war. Other nations will estimate our democracy in accordance as we react to this. This is the acid test.

If the suffrage resolution is defeated, it will be by the vote of one of the senators from Tennessee. He is a candidate for re-election.

A MARVELOUS GROWTH.

When Knoxville voted in favor of prohibition of saloons in that city in 1907, few in Tennessee believed that within two years the whole state would be dry, along with Georgia and Alabama, and that in eleven years over one-half the people of the United States would be living under prohibitory laws, and that congress would enact federal prohibition.

Yet this is what has happened. Congressional action has run far in advance of the adoption of the amendment to the United States constitution. Up to date, fourteen states have ratified that amendment. But now, by the new bill which soon is to receive the president's signature, it will be unlawful to make or sell an intoxicant after July 1, 1919.

The passage of the federal amendment will rapidly follow. We look to see the great municipal bulwarks against temperance legislation accept the situation and fall in line. We look to see the great newspaper organs, which have fought in vain against the spread of the sentiment, accept the situation, and urge the prompt adoption of the federal amendment. It will not do after the war is over to return to saloons and whiskey. The people will not stand for it. If prohibition is necessary to protect the physical and moral well-being of the soldier in time of war, it is necessary for soldier and civilian in time of peace.

The only harmful effect of the prohibition movement is that it has aroused feeling. This was exceedingly regrettable, but it had to be borne or this great movement for the betterment of man would have failed. But now all the agitation and discussion are of the past. Once there was room for difference of opinion. Now there is none. Now it is proper to be dragging the old skeletons out any more.

VICTORY IN PALESTINE.

The New York Evening Post explains the situation in Palestine this way:

"Gen. Allenby's brilliant victory will eventually force the Turks out of northern Palestine and southern Lebanon and oblige them to retire behind the Beirut-Damascus line. While they stood south of the Esdraelon valley, the Turks had a fairly good railway at their back to keep them in supplies. North of the Esdraelon valley, until the Beirut-Damascus line is reached in their retreat, they have no railway and only a few miserable dirt roads. Their sole line of communication in this territory is the Hedjaz railroad lying far to the east, on the edge of the desert. It is not very convenient that if Allenby wishes to force the fighting, he can clear them back into the Lebanon whenever he wishes, with his well-equipped army, supplied by excellent railways, and a network of splendid macadam roads. Naturally, he may not wish to push the Turks too hard now, with the idea that later on, by an encircling movement along the coast similar to that which gave him his recent victory, he may trap the remnants of the Turkish-Syrian army. But the German officers in command of the Ottoman forces, who have shown great ability and finesse thus far, will not wait for this coup de grace, but will hustle what is left of their troops to comparative safety behind the railway that connects the Mediterranean at Beirut with the Hedjaz line at Damascus, far inland. Palestine must shortly be entirely cleared of its age-long depopler."

No defeat inflicted on the enemy in the east has been more complete than in the holy land.

We should not use ex-convicts as soldiers. When our boys come home from Germany, they will not want it said that they were part of an army composed in part of men from penitentiaries. We have no doubt Germany has used convicts. The Prussian military staff considers not how a deed is done just so the results are accomplished. Civilized nations have had another view of war than of turning loose beasts in human form on the population of occupied territories. The draft has made of our armies a true democracy, but they have not compelled the upright and just to serve with the felon. Not that the criminal should not be given another chance. So he should. With all our attention to bloodshed, let us not forget the humanitarian methods which have been put in effect for the reform of convicts. But the army is not the place where he should be reformed. Let him show himself a good citizen and then after a time he may be enlisted in the ranks where he may serve his country and have his stain completely removed.

California's supreme court refuses to recognize Henry as the democratic candidate for governor notwithstanding he was so designated by the state democratic committee.

The allied drives have already surpassed the one which Hindenburg set going amid such a flourish of trumpets in territory, prisoners and guns taken, and are fast now getting good started.

DISTRIBUTING ASSETS.

For many years, even decades, the battle for prohibition was waged without assistance from the big city papers. They either ignored, sneered at its leaders as fanatics or denounced it outright. But the fight went on. Little by little, ground was gained, but, oh, how slowly. Then came a time when the advance was more brisk. And a little later, there was more or less of a rush for the dry bandwagon. And, at last, metropolitan papers began to find their courage. Some of them now read saucy things about the saloons, once in a while. They have even been known to snap their fingers in the faces of the big brewers. Here is a calculation which appeared in the New York Sun a few days ago:

"We have not the means of verifying the estimate of the brewers that 30,000 saloons in this city will go out of business next month because of the executive ban on beer, but the figure is round and fascinating and suggestive."

"Ten thousand bartenders would be welcomed in essential industry, if not in the army."

"Ten thousand hardwood bars could be turned into gun stocks, ships' furniture and peace conference tables."

"Ten thousand sets of mirrors, placed in the entablatures, would add to the joy of the man putting on his first suit of olive drab."

"Ten thousand brass footfalls would be received by the shell factories with loud cheers."

"Ten thousands groups of 'private stock' bottles could be used as ketchup containers."

"Ten thousand bungsters could be adapted to shipyard work for the driving home of wooden kegs. One of these interesting weapons might be sent to the historical society."

"Ten thousand slates, after careful washing, could be used in schools."

"Ten thousand cheap, saloons, what would be the increased value, in money alone, of the buildings in which they now nestle?"

If the Sun had printed this or a similar statement ten or fifteen years ago, it would probably have been the signal for a boycott—not only by the liquor interests, but by other lines of business as well. Now the trembling goose purveyors are afraid to print, lest it advertise and popularize the Sin. Once the liquor business was so mighty that leaders of the churches even hesitated to antagonize it. Now, few are so poor as to do it reverence. A veritable revolution has been wrought.

TOM LAWSON FOR SENATOR.

As a contribution to the safety of nations, and at a time when other prospects for entertainment are rather dim, Thomas W. Lawson, the irrepressible, has announced as a candidate for United States senator from Massachusetts. Tom has not been in eruption for some time now, hence he may be depended upon to start the fireworks right off the reel. He is nobody's candidate—except his own, since the republicans and democrats already have candidates in the field. Senator Weeks has been renominated by the former, while the latter have chosen ex-Gov. Walsh. A Massachusetts republican has been to Washington and has given the reporters his views of the situation somewhat as follows:

"The situation of Massachusetts is in no manner disturbed by the candidacy of Thomas Lawson for the United States senate. Senator Weeks will be re-elected, and by a plurality greater than has ever been given to a candidate for the office. If the democrats are taking comfort from Lawson's entry into the contest, they will be sadly disappointed in the result. If Lawson draws from any element of the voters, it will be rather from the democrats than the republicans."

"I presume the campaign will be enlivened by the participation of Lawson, who always does things in a sensational manner, and we may expect the voters to be rather bored by the startling statements to be made. They will not, however, either fool or influence the people. Attempts to sway the voters by offering to make big bets on the result will have no effect except to detract from the strength of the man who makes the offer. We know that Lawson is accustomed to doing things on a big scale, but he will not have the confidence of the voters."

"Senator Weeks, on the other hand, has made a reputation for conservatism and sanity, and his war record is above reproach. He has supported the administration in its war measures and no democrat has been more loyal than he. Gov. Walsh probably is the strongest man the democrats could have put up, but he will not poll any larger vote than was given the democratic candidate for the governorship last year."

This gentleman is right in one respect. Senator Weeks has established a reputation for conservatism. He doesn't look with much favor on anything progressive, though the Bay State has recently manifested symptoms of awakening.

We see no reason for supposing that Lawson should draw more heavily on the democrats than republicans. Really, we are not inclined to think he will draw heavily from anybody. Tom is about as impossible for a senator as Cole Blease.

CHATTANOOGA DISTRICT FAIR.

The gates of the Chattanooga District fair will be opened to the public next Monday. It will be an exhibition worth going to see. It will emphasize the importance of good production. All fair should be its patriotic features will bring home to the people lessons of the great war. It also has numerous new amusement exhibits, since it is the purpose to make it entertaining as well as instructive.

The Chattanooga district is a compact section of which this city is the geographical, political, commercial and industrial center. The city is more or less of a hub for the district. The people of the section all have business at Chattanooga some time during the year, and the district fair furnishes an occasion for them all to come to town at once to compare results of the year's industry and to renew acquaintance with the folks in town and with each other.

Chattanooga is glad to play the role of host for the people of the surrounding territory. The town has plenty of features of its own—historic, scenic and progressive—to make an occasional visit interesting. It has an extensive encampment of Uncle Sam's soldiers nearby and many of these will have parts in the fair. The industrial and agricultural features will be more complete than before, and races, games and thrilling acts will appeal to the instincts of the sport loving.

The agricultural and live stock exhibits are, of course, the backbone of the fair. The resources of the district are rich and varied. It will take a trip to the fair to give one an adequate idea of their scope and profusion. The school exhibits are also objects of never-ending interest. They illustrate for us how practical our educational methods are becoming. The industrial features are of a high order. Will the government dare to let a private citizen have one of the best Oxford bowlers?

To appoint me controller of all the controllers?

My father has now got a lucrative post (with an adequate staff) as controller of My brother, who helped the controller of fate.

Has some hope of becoming controller of fate.

My uncle has quarters at Glasgow Leith. He is Scottish controller of stoppings and teeth.

Will probably soon be controller of brass. My aunt has received quick tokens of praise.

CINCINNATI'S METHOD.

In common with other cities of the country, Cincinnati has experienced an agitation for the increase of street railway fares. But, differing from many other communities, the Buckeye city has effected a permanent settlement of the question—and in a thoroughly original manner. What is known as a sliding scale of rates of fare has been agreed upon between the city and the operating companies and adopted.

To start the new system in operation, the rate of fare will be five cents with universal transfers for the first three months. At the end of that period, the rate will be automatically raised or lowered one-half cent, according to whether revenue derived for the three months, has proved remunerative or insufficient. After the first three months, two months shall be considered an accounting period, but in no case is the change in rate to exceed one-half cent.

This plan, of course, involves a system of audit by the city authorities to ascertain the relation of income to expenses. It is an embodiment of an agreement that the city may have the right at stipulated intervals to purchase the traction lines, or to acquire them by condemnation. The story, as printed in the Enquirer, does not state how the change is made in case the rate of fare is fixed upon a dividend cent, but it is probable that the full cent would have to be paid by those who do not purchase ticket books.

We have heretofore suggested that the equitable settlement of rates of traction fare and the charges of other public service corporations makes some sort of public service commission almost indispensable. No other authority exists in this state, so far as we know, that is equipped to deal with such matters in thorough-going fashion. The railroad commission furnishes a germ for such an organization, but it would have to be overhauled considerably to be made adjustable. We trust that the next legislature may take some action in the premises.

Even in Germany the proposition to put a German king over the Finns is not welcomed in all quarters. Philip Scheidemann, of the socialist party, says of it:

"But to speak openly it is simply scandalous that a thing of this kind is possible. Those evil-hooding ravens who offered you the Finnish throne have not got the people behind them, but determined against them."

Scheidemann severely condemns the government for not standing up against those German elements which traffic "in crowns," and declares that, judging by all the signs the conflict will be fought out elsewhere. He goes on: "Seven days and nights I had about three hours' sleep in twenty-four, and did not have my shoes off for about twelve days. Just now I am in the hospital No. 116, from effects of boche gas—nothing serious. I got the gas about six days ago and had to 'turn in' last night. Expect to be out in a few days, so if you see my name amongst the 'slightly wounded' you will understand."

My outfit took some prisoners and they were interesting specimens.

Base Hospital 116, July 22, 1918.

Dearest Mother: Some time since I wrote you, but haven't had the chance to get through the mail since I wrote you last. In the field we had no facilities for writing, and even had to go to the front to get a letter. I had about seven days and nights I had about three hours' sleep in twenty-four, and did not have my shoes off for about twelve days. Just now I am in the hospital No. 116, from effects of boche gas—nothing serious. I got the gas about six days ago and had to 'turn in' last night. Expect to be out in a few days, so if you see my name amongst the 'slightly wounded' you will understand."

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Still here, but feeling pretty good today. Put my clothes on today and took a short walk, but am a bit weak. Am enjoying the rest; had not shower bath yesterday—second day—had to get to your body between sheets, having your clothes off, seems more of a dream than a possibility.

His condition is here, too, and we have a good many pleasant hours together. He sure and call his father and tell him Hugh looks fine, but will be a little while yet, as they do not let us go until we are fully cured and as good as before we were hurt.

My lieutenant-colonel, who is with me, came the same time I did and for the same reason. He is an old man, but is doing nicely. He is a peach of an old fellow, too. Benny says this is the beginning of the end, and I hope so, for I want to get home to mother.

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PLUCKED!



FORMER CHATTANOOGAN CLAIMS GERMANS KILLED AMERICAN CAPTIVES

Piled Up Wounded and Burned Them to Death With Liquid Fire—Could Not Feed Others and Fired Into Them With Machine Guns.

In the casualty list published in The News several weeks ago appeared the name of Lieut. James Johnson, of St. Petersburg, Fla., of recent years, but in earlier life of Lookout mountain, near this city. Lieut. Johnson was mentioned as among those who had been gassed on the fighting line in France. He is the son of Mrs. Gorda Johnson, who has for years maintained a summer home on Lookout mountain, but during the winter season spends her time in St. Petersburg.

At present she is at her mountain home, where she has received some interesting letters from her son, the lieutenant, extracts from which The News is privileged to publish. In one of his letters he mentions the name of Chattanooga's own Hugh Thompson, son of Ex-Mayor Thompson, who was in the hospital with him in France.

Extracts from Lieut. Johnson's letters follow:

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